

Chairman of the Democratic Committee on Committees after consultation with and approval of the Minority Leader. Both majority and minority party members were elected by name, rather than by the designation, "sitting members of the Committee on Un-American Activities," so that their election could be more easily certified to a court in case of legal proceedings relating to the committee. Such procedure avoided the necessity of having to refer back at some future time to the previous resolutions electing the members to the Committee on Un-American Activities.

Announcement of Meeting

§ 11.2 The Republican floor leader made an announcement in the House concerning a meeting of the party Committee on Committees.

The Minority Leader in the 75th Congress, Bertrand H. Snell, of New York, made the following announcement in the House:⁽⁷⁾

MR. SNELL: Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the Republican members of the committee on committees at 4 o'clock this afternoon in the rooms of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce

7. 81 CONG. REC. 201, 75th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 13, 1937.

Committee, located in the New House Office Building, and there will be a Republican Conference in this Hall at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

§ 12. Republican Policy Committee; Research Committee

The Republican Policy Committee studies proposed legislation, takes positions on matters of policy, considers legislative strategy,⁽⁸⁾ and serves the Republican Conference and leadership in an advisory capacity. The Policy Committee was formerly known as the Steering Committee until it was renamed in 1949.⁽⁹⁾

The Policy Committee may consist of Republican Members serving on legislative committees responsible for legislation under study by the Policy Committee.

An announcement of the selection of the Chairman of the Policy Committee has frequently been made in the House.⁽¹⁰⁾ By virtue of his status as a party leader, the Chairman of the Policy Committee

8. For discussion of a Democratic committee with similar functions see § 13, *infra*.

9. See Congressional Quarterly's *Guide to the Congress of the United States*, Congressional Quarterly Service (Washington, D. C., 1971), p. 142.

10. See § 12. 1, *infra*.

has on occasion assumed the functions of the floor leader, particularly during formal affairs such as the extension of certain courtesies and the fulfillment of ceremonial duties.⁽¹¹⁾

The Committee on Research, through the use of task forces, does research in areas relating to particular issues, and presents reports and recommendations to the Republican Conference.

Announcement as to Chairmen

§ 12.1 The conference chairman has on occasion announced in the House the names of the persons selected by the conference as Chairmen of the Policy Committee and the Committee on Research.

In the 90th Congress, following the announcement of the selection of the minority whip, the Chairman of the Republican Conference announced as follows:⁽¹²⁾

MR. [MELVIN R.] LAIRD [of Wisconsin]: . . . The conference has also directed me to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as Chairman of the Republican Committee on Policy the gen-

tleman from Arizona, the Honorable John J. Rhodes, and has chosen as Chairman of the Republican Committee on Research and Planning the gentleman from New York, the Honorable Charles E. Goodell.

In the 89th Congress, the conference chairman, immediately after announcing his party's selection of a Minority Leader, announced the election by the conference of a Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee.⁽¹³⁾ Similarly, in the 88th Congress, an announcement was made respecting the selection of the minority whip and the Chairman of the Policy Committee.⁽¹⁴⁾

Duties of Chairman

§ 12.2 The Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, in the stead of the Minority Leader, was appointed to the committee to notify the President of the intention of the House to adjourn.

In the 91st Congress, the Majority Leader and the acting Minority Leader, the Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, were appointed to the committee to notify the President of the intention of the House to adjourn.

11. See §§ 12.2, 12.3, *infra*.

12. 113 CONG. REC. 27, 90th Cong. 1st Sess. Jan. 10. 1967.

13. 111 CONG. REC. 20, 89th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 4, 1965.

14. 109 CONG. REC. 506, 88th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 17, 1963.

The proceedings were as follows:⁽¹⁵⁾

MR. [CARL] ALBERT [of Oklahoma]: Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 1338) and ask for its immediate consideration.

[The Clerk read the resolution, which authorized the appointment of a committee to join with a similar committee of the Senate and inform the President of the readiness of Congress to adjourn. The resolution was agreed to.]

THE SPEAKER:⁽¹⁶⁾ The Chair appoints as Members on the part of the House of the committee to notify the President the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. Albert, and the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. Rhodes.

§ 12.3 Acting in the stead of the Minority Leader, the Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee offered a resolution expressing the praise of the House for the manner in which the Speaker had performed his duties.

In the 91st Congress, the Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, John J. Rhodes, of Arizona, acting in the stead of the Minority Leader, offered a resolution thanking Speaker John W. McCormack, of Massachusetts, for the exemplary manner in which the Speaker had performed his

15. 116 CONG. REC. 44599, 91st Cong. 2d Sess., Jan. 2, 1971.

16. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

duties. The proceedings were as follows:⁽¹⁷⁾

THE SPEAKER. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Poff) will take the Chair.

Mr. Poff assumed the Chair.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (Mr. Poff). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Rhodes).

MR. RHODES of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 1340) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 1340

Resolved, That the thanks of the House are presented to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives, for the able, impartial, and dignified manner in which he has presided over the deliberations and performed the arduous duties of the Chair during the present term of Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representatives hereby extends to its be-

17. 116 CONG. REC. 44600, 44601, 91st Cong. 2d Sess., Jan. 2, 1971.

Parliamentarian's Note: Mr. Gerald R. Ford (Mich.) the Minority Leader and Mr. Leslie C. Arends (Ill.), the minority whip, had left the city and had requested Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Richard H. Poff (Va.) to act in their stead with respect to the proceedings described above.

In the 90th Congress, a similar resolution was offered by the Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, who was acting for the Minority Leader. 114 CONG. REC. 31371, 90th Cong. 2d Sess., Oct. 14 1968.

loved Speaker, the Honorable John W. McCormack, sincere wishes for a long, pleasant, and well-earned retirement.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

MR. RHODES. Mr. Speaker, it is a proud duty which I perform in offering this resolution in appreciation to our great Speaker, the Honorable John McCormack of Massachusetts.

[Mr. Rhodes continued his remarks, sharing his personal memories of the Speaker and expressing appreciation of the Speaker's record of service.]

§ 13. Steering Committee

The Republican Conference in 1919 authorized the creation of a steering committee to be nominated by the Committee on Committees and elected by the party conference.⁽¹⁸⁾ The committee created by the Republicans is now known as the Policy Committee.⁽¹⁹⁾

A Democratic Steering Committee was created in the 73d Congress to consist of 15 Members elected to represent geographical zones.⁽²⁰⁾ Cannon stated that, "the Steering Committee is not respon-

sible to the caucus, and the election of its members . . . is not subject to caucus ratification or rejection";⁽¹⁾ that, "members of the Steering Committee are directly responsible to the membership of the zone from which elected and are subject to recall at any time";⁽²⁾ and that, "the Chairman of the Steering Committee is elected by the committee and is ineligible to succeed himself."⁽³⁾

The purposes of the Steering Committee as originally created were to consult with the various geographical groups on pending legislation, to promote unity among the groups, and to advise the party leadership as to legislative scheduling and floor strategy.⁽⁴⁾

The Democratic Steering Committee was relatively inactive for many years. But changes in the committee's composition and functions were included in an addendum to the 1973 caucus rules and, more recently, the committee has assumed new importance as the

18. See 8 Cannon's Precedents § 3621.

19. The Policy Committee is discussed in § 12, *supra*.

20. See 8 Cannon's Precedents § 3622.

1. 8 Cannon's Precedents § 3622.

2. *Id.*

3. *Id.*

4. See Congressional Quarterly's *Guide to the Congress of the United States*, Congressional Quarterly Service (Washington, D.C., 1971), pp. 142, 604. See also 8 Cannon's Precedents § 3622, discussing the functions of the steering committee.